

comparing the first key to the second key and, if the first and second keys do not match, retrieving the software components from one or more remotely accessible software vaults; and

comparing the first key to the second key and, if the first and second keys match, retrieving the software components from the client computer; and

using the retrieved software components to recreate the software application.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, comprising:

initializing a difference flag;

determining whether first binary data associated with the software components stored on the client computer and second binary data associated with the software components stored on the remotely accessible software vaults differ;

if the first and second binary data differ, comparing the first and second keys based on sequence attributes including date created, date modified, date last accessed or version number;

if the sequence attributes are equal, if one of the sequence attributes is newer than another, or if one of the sequence attributes is older than the other and the software components with the older attribute may be overwritten, setting the difference flag; and

determining that there is not a match between the first key and the second key if the difference flag is set.

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### REMARKS

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant : Cadir Batista Lee, et  
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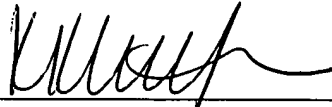
Attorney : Docket No.: 09595-004002

Applicant asks that all claims be examined. Enclosed is a \$562.00 check for excess claim fees. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

12/19/01



Katherine Kelly Lutton  
Reg. No. 46,333

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
500 Arguello Street, Suite 500  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
Telephone: (650) 839-5070  
Facsimile: (650) 839-5071

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**Version with markings to show changes made**

**In the specification:**

Paragraph beginning at page 6, at approximately line number 24, has been amended as follows:

Figs. 8A and 8B are flowcharts illustrating ~~alternate~~-alternative processes for software management.

Paragraph beginning at page 14, at approximately line number 21, has been amended as follows:

Figs. 8A and 8B show ~~alternate~~-alternative processes to provide state-based software life cycle management using a vault. Turning now to Fig. 8A, a process for performing software management first generates the metadata (step 403), as described in Fig. 1. The metadata may include DNA information, as described in more detail in the incorporated-by-reference application. The information is then used to maintain software (step 405) before the process exits. Correspondingly, Fig. 8B shows a second software life cycle management process. Initially, the metadata information is generated and published (step 410). Next, components of the software are replicated (step 450) based on the metadata. The software is then installed (step 470). After installation, the software may be maintained (step 490).